

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Richard LEVY)
Serial No.: To Be Assigned) Group Art Unit: Parent Application
37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) Continuation) 1721
Application of Parent Application) Examiner: Parent Application
Serial No. 08/943,123) M. Medley
Filed: October 3, 1997)
Filed: To Be Assigned)
For: SUPERABSORBENT POLYMER-)
LUBRICANT COMPOSITIONS ON)
SUBSTRATE)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Please amend the above identified 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) continuation application based on parent application Serial No. 08/943,123 filed October 3, 1997 as follows, preliminary to an examination of the application on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-56 without prejudice or disclaimer.

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Please add the following claims.

--57. A coating formed on the surface of a substrate, said coating comprising a superabsorbent polymer further comprising a lubricant.

58. The coating of claim 57 wherein the superabsorbent polymer absorbs greater than 100 times its weight in water and desorbs water when the coating is dried.

59. The coating of claim 57 further comprising a viscosity modifying agent.

60. The coating of claim 58 further comprising a viscosity modifying agent.

61. The coating of claim 57 wherein the substrate comprises a cable.

62. The coating of claim 57 wherein the substrate comprises a wire.

63. The coating of claim 61 further comprising a viscosity modifying agent.

64. The coating of claim 62 further comprising a viscosity modifying agent.

65. The coating of any one of claims 57, 58, 61 or 62 wherein the coating comprises a product made by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said lubricant.

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66. The coating of any one of claims 59, 63 or 64 where said coating comprises a product produced by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer, lubricant and viscosity modifying agent.

67. The coating of any one of claims 57-64 further comprising a binder.

68. The coating of claim 67 wherein said coating comprises a product produced by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer, said lubricant and said binder, and said viscosity modifying agent when present.

REMARKS

The present application substantially copies claims from WO 00/29486, which claims priority of Flautt et al., United States Patent application 09/190,866 filed November 13, 1998, re-filed as CIP Application 09/409,457 on September 30, 1999. Applicant points out that the great grandparent application Serial No. 08/487,436 on which the present application is based has a filing date of June 7, 1995 and that the present application is also based on Continuation-In-Part Application Serial No. 08/583,587 filed January 5, 1996. Both applications precede the Flautt et al. U.S. applications by more than one year. As of the filing of this application, applicant's attorneys have determined that neither of the Flautt et al. applications has issued as a United States Patent.

Applicant requests that the Examiner conducting the examination of Flautt et al., also conduct the examination of the present application

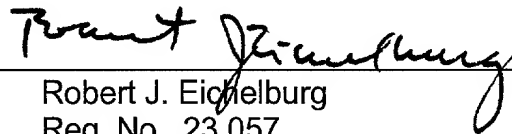
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If filing this preliminary amendment requires an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 in the parent application and payment of an extension of time fee or other fee, any of which this preliminary amendment fails to account for, applicant's attorneys request such an extension and payment of any fees due to their Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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By: 
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Dated: February 9, 2001

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